

THE
Duke of Monmouth

AND,

Earl of Essex, with the rest of the Noble Peers,

VINDICATED:

In ANSWER to a Printed LETTER to a Noble Peer of the Realm,
about his late Speech and Petition to his Majesty.

THis licentious Age doth abound with so many *unclean Spirits*, like *Frogs*, *Rev. 16. 13.* As not only creep into Kings Palaces, as the *Frogs* of *Egypt* did into the King's very Chamber, to croak in his Face, and to crawl on his Bosom, when neither Walls nor Weapons, Barrs nor Bolts, could keep them out, *Exod. 8. 1, 3, 4, 6.* But dare also croak there with their continual [*Breke, kekex coax coax*] (as *Aristophanes* phraseth it) out of their black Mouths; and bespatter some principal Peers of our Realm, for no other Fault, but because they desire,

Their Sovereign to preserve, these Kingdoms free,
From popish Cut-Throats, and *Egypt's* Slavery.

Those Spiritual Fathers (the *Jesuits*, who are the Pope's *Favizaries*, and *ultimus Diaboli crepitus*, the last *Crack-Fart* of a daring Devil) are called *Frogs*, for their Loquacity, Impudency, and Impurity. 'Tis a thousand pities, that the famous *White-Hall*, should harbour any such *Black-mouth'd* Creatures, with all those three *Black-brands* upon them; I dare say, 'tis not *cum Privilegio*, as the dirty Dogs do bark at the splendid Moon, which yet keeps her Course, and continues her Lustre, *notwithstanding their Barking*: So those croaking *Frogs* do endeavour to darken some Stars of the firmament in our British Sphere, with their Out-cries against them; yet I doubt not, but those Noble Peers will maintain their Grandeur and Splendour, *notwithstanding their Croaking*. 'Tis a thousand pities, such *Scandalum magnatum* may now sculk so under unknown Masqueradoes, as to scape Scot-free with their pretended Letters from *Scotland*, (though writ at home) against such Noble Peers, and Loyal States-men. *Aesop's* Frog is deemed an able and courageous Champion, that durst encounter the silly Mouse, and run a Tilt at him with a Bull-rush for his Spear; but this *Pamphleteer* is a bolder Frog, yea a more daring Devil, (or unclean Spirit) who dare encounter no less then sixteen at once, (when *Hercules* himself durst not contend with two at one time, *Ne Hercules contra duos*) and those sixteen all great Peers of the Land: This is an Enterprize *dignum tanto*, worthy of a poor Frog to undertake. Assuredly he conceited himself to be that other Frog of *Aesop's*, who would needs swell and stretch himself out, till he became as big as an Ox; but the issue was, he brake himself all asunder, and so perished. The like Fate may in due time befall this *Bombasting Bragadocio*, and over bold undertaker. Or perhaps he fancied himself of the Off-spring of those, (the Poet mentioned) who waged War against *Jove* himself, (*subjectum Pelion Offe &c.* Throwing great Trees, huge Rocks, and vast Mountains against Heaven, to throw *Jupiter* out of his Throne; but they were answered with hot Thunder-bolts, whereby that *Gigantomachia* had a Period put to it in the Giants Destruction. Or lastly, he might imagine himself to descend from the *Zamzummites*, *Deut. 2. 20.* Those big and boistrous Men, that durst bid defiance to the true *Jehovah*, and challenge him to a Duel, whom yet the Lord destroyed before *Israel*. This *Thraasonical* Libeller feareth none of these Fates, daring to outdare both God and Man, yea great, and the greatest of Men: And if he falls in his Essay, (as fond *Phaeton* did in his) with my consent he shall have *Phaeton's* Epitaph writ upon his Tomb, (may he be capable of that Honour) only with change of the Name and Employ:

*Hic situs est Thrafo, Baronum contaminator,
Quo si non valuit, magnis tamen excidit ausis.*

And

And how can he hope for any better success than a Fall, to fight against so many Grand Heroes all at once, and that with no better a Weapon than that Spear of the Frog aforesaid, a weak, a poor Bullrush? All his Arguments he urgeth against them are not worth a Rush, and no better than a Bullrush, as the Sequel evidenceth.

The Observation whereof, looseth my long silent Tongue, (as danger did the dumb Son of Cræsus, who all on the sudden cryed out, *kill not King Cræsus*). *Facit indignatio versum*. A just Indignation at this sordid Sycophant, and Pick-thank Parasite, hath constrained me to cry out, Undo not the King, and his Kingdoms, with your precipitant Counsels, and your prejudicate Suggestions; undo not your self, who like the silly Weasel, that dare nibble at the Heels of a Lion, that saith, *nemo me impune lacessit*, whom the provoked Beast easily destroys with his Paw, how much more a Nibler at the Heels of so many Lions at once? One that casteth so much Dirt upon them, is in the high way to be destroyed, and the Nobles themselves not much damag'd thereby? For if Dirt be cast upon a Mud-Wall, it may possibly stick, but it cannot do so upon Marble.

This scurrilous Libeller (as suspecting his own strength in his Essay) doth supplie with Policy his want of power and prowels.

Dolus an virtus, quis in hoste requirat?

He therefore first singlet out the Noble Earl of Essex, (that brave Patriot for his King and Kingdom,) as *their* Forlorn Hope, which could he but rout, then will he fall foul upon the main Body, that stood in a double File, or two in a Rank behind him. And in pursuance of this project he first assaults that single Earl, with subtle Insinuations, dipping his Nail (he had to drive) in Oil, to make it drive the deeper, not only to the Head, but to the Heart also. Thus like the Devil, he accosts the Earl with *Flattering*, before he come to his *Frowning* Work; which he comes to in the second place. Not only frowning upon the Earl, in telling him that he threatens his Majesty (which his humble offer of Advice (as he saith there) can in no Grammatical sence without notorious wretling be so interpreted) but also in giving that Noble Peer (*Tantamount*) the Lie, in upbraiding him with his weak Observation without the least ground in History, as if this obscure Whiffler (ashamed of his own Name) knew more both of the History and Mystery of our State than all those sixteen Lords, and all other the wisest of States-men.

However, he craftily quotes Baker's Chronicle only, and because he there found nothing of the Parliament at Clarendon, in Henry the II.'s Time, therefore he affronts the Earl with telling an Untruth: and he saith, the cause of that King's Unhappiness was from *ambitious* and *discontented* *Grandeers*: But had he consulted Fuller's Church History, Cent. 12. lib. 3. pag. 32. and Prideaux's Introduction, pag. 319. edit. 2. (both of them true Sons of the Church, and under Prelatical ~~Chairs~~) he would have found there, that the Parliament was called at Clarendon, to retrench the Enormities of the Clergy, which the Foundation of a Feud was laid, not betwixt him and any ambitious Nobles, (as the Pamphlet hinteth) as betwixt him, and that Traitor-Saint, Becket, Arch-Bishop of Canterbury, who was a stubborn Patronizer of the debauched Clergy, with whom that King had many Bickerings; and 'twas not the Secular Lords (as this Whiffler saith) but this proud Spiritual Lord, Becket, who semented the Difference betwixt this King, and Lewis the French King, Fuller, p. 33. with whom his own Son Henry sided against him, p. 40. And as to Henry the III. this Pamphleteer might have consulted the two fore-named Authors, as well as Baker; and there he would have found likewise something of an *Insanum Parliamentum* at Oxford, which proved prejudicial to Regality, Prideaux, p. 322. and how his immoderate and exasperating Favours (cast upon Strangers) drew on the Barons Wars; and that the King's Non-age, after his Full-age, (such was his Weakness of Spirit, and Lowness of Resolution) was a great Cause of his Trouble, Fuller, *ut supra*, p. 55. who further saith, That the Barons had then too much Matter, whereon justly to ground their Discontent; partly, because the King, distrusting his own Native Subjects, employed so many French Forreigners in Places of Power and Profit; and partly, because he had used such indirect Courses to recruit his Treasuries, &c. More at large, Fuller, *ibid.* p. 66. *Sect.* 33. Yet was he happy in this, to redress all his Errors before he died, *Sect.* 38. granting that good *Magna Charta*, &c.

As to Henry the VI. our Libeller shuffles that up, and never quotes Baker, (as he might have done) who tells us, how the Duke of York first began to whisper for the Crown, p. 188 *Col.* 2. then secondly, made his way to the Crown, p. 190. *Col.* 1. After all this, takes the Oath of Allegiance to Henry the VI. p. 192. *Col.* 2. whom he cast out of his Throne, (notwithstanding his Oath of Fidelity two several times,) there being no less than four Changes in his Reign. But not a word of this must we hear from him, lest that should create the like Fears about the Duke of York at this time: For then did Richard Duke of York (Edward the IV.'s Father) get it confirmed by Parliament, to be Heir Apparent of the Crown; and this is the great Contest of this Day. Neither doth he mention that Parliament held at Coventry, (which that Honourable Lord in his Humble Address hinteth at) wherein the Duke of York was convicted of High-Treason, and all his Lands and Goods confiscate to the King. This also had a *Noli me tangere* upon it, as being, like the afore-said, unsuitable to his Dignity, tho his Baker, whom he only quotes, do speak fully to all this, p. 196. *Col.* 1.

As to the Body of the Petition, I observe, this Libeller is a fast Friend to the plotting Papists, and would give us a Diversion from that kind of Cattel to the Presbyterians, (whom he judges far worse) as if he had an hand in the Meal-Tub Intrigue.

Dat veniam Corvis, vexat censura Columbas.

The Lord drive these unclean Spirits (the croaking Frogs) far from us, (as Zech. 13. 2.)
So prays,
C. N.